The Vindicator Vindicated:

OR, A

SUR-REJOYNDER

On behalf of

Sir Thomas Player, &c.

Againſt the Calumnies of H. B. *alias* N. R. *alias* P. K. *alias* S. P. in a late Pamphlet Learnedly Entituled

An ANSWER in Defence of a REPLY.

'TIS not without ſome violence to my own Inclinations, that I come once more to take notice of this mans *Impertinencies*; Excuſe me therefore Readers, if I appear not *over-ſerious* where I have to do with one ſo compleatly *Ridiculous*; For why muſt we needs uſe *ſyllogiſmes* to confute the *Brayings of an Aſs*, or come forth with *Sword and Buckler* to Duel the Knight of the *Windmills*, and Attacque a *Scarcrow* of *Beanſtalks* and *Bulruſhes*? In truth were it not to remove certain *miſtakes* too boldly ſpread by *Ill-deſigning* people, and too unwarily ſwallowed by ſome *well-meaning* Citizens, (more than out of any regard to the merits of his *trifling* Pamphlet,) I ſhould have left the *Angry man* to talk *alone*, and enjoy the glory of the *laſt word*, which he ſhews himſelf ſo eager to obtain, though in ſpight of *Reaſon*, and with the intire forfeiture of all the ſmall Remains of his *Diſcretion*.

Our pretended Citizen begins this ſecond paper in the ſtile of *Splitting-Dick*; as if he would have us take him for ſome ſmall *Label of the Law* or ſmatterer in *Clerkſhip*; But he offers at it ſo woodenly, that the verieſt *Fac-ſimile-Dulman*, the ſillyeſt *Three half-penny Hack* in all *Chancery Lane* would be aſham'd on't. The ſaid H. B. *for further Anſwer* Taken *to the Exceptions in the ſaid Vindication, anſwers and ſayes*, If either of the Giants in *Guild-Hall* can make *ſenſe* of this, I'le burn *Weſts Preſidents*, and give him my *Green Bag* into the Bargain. Nay ſo accompliſht he appears in his own *Craft* as not to underſtand the very *terms* us'd in the proceſs of a Suit in *Equity*. For his firſt Libel which he meant for an *Anſwer* he call'd a *Replication*; and this, which (according to his reckoning) ſhould have been a *Rejoynder* he miſnames an *Anſwer*.

But his Defects of *Wit* and *Law*, are made up with a ſurpluſage of *Confidence* and *Ill-nature*; The firſt caſt of his skill being an Ill-favour'd ſquint on Sr. *Tho. P.* who, he ſayes, *might as reaſonably have taken him for a Few, as a Prieſt or Papiſt*. What Sr. *T.* took him for, or whether he ever vouchſafed him the honour of his generous thoughts, is to me *unknown*. 'Tis indeed ſomewhat improbable that he ſhould be a *Prieſt*, becauſe commonly that Tribe ſhew themſelves cunninger Knaves, and write with more *Art* and *Learning*; but that he may be a kind of *Mungrel*, an indifferent well-willer to the *Red-Letter*, a mercenary Tool that would be an Advocate for *Popery* for ten Groats, there are ſtill ſome violent ſuſpicions. For why ſhould we not ſuppoſe him a *Janus* in opinion, that wears a couple of names, *H. B.* in the Front, but *N. R.* in the Rear of his Pamphlet, and yet 'tis probable neither of them ſo much as the initial letters of his *true* Appellation? If he be one of our *principal Citizens*, and really of

the Church of *England* as he alledges, why all this *Shuffling* and *Masking*? Or who but one that is a *favourer of Papists* at least, would go about to divide us in such a juncture with groundless surmises, and *scandalize* so Noble a Gentleman, *only for his zeal to the Protestant Religion*? 'Tis true, he would *cloak* himself under the *Church* of *England*; but how many of late pretend to her Honourable *Livery*, only that they may *wound* her more unsuspectedly?

Tuta frequensq; via est sub Amici fallere Nomen.

He would by this maliciously insinuate as if Sr. *T.* were *Author* of the paper called *The Vindication*, but can he hope to make any people in their wits believe it? In vain, Sir! in vain you aspire to the *Honour* of such an Opponent, *Aquila non capit Muscas*, That Gentleman has other business than to trouble himself with *Domitians* fly-flap, or regard the barkings of every *Cerberus*. The *Vindication* was written, as the *Notes of his Speech* were printed, wholly without his *Consent or Privity*; For being satisfied with the Testimony of a good *Conscience*, he valued not your *slanders*, yet 'twas thought a duty owing to *Truth* and the *Honour of the City* (which in general you had aspersed) That the same should be exposed by a meaner hand, who has no *other* obligations to that worthy *Knight* than what every *true Protestant* must gratefully own. Our Author next *observes*, *That in the Opinion of the Fanaticks, the Popish Plot cannot be suppressed without their Help*. Tell us, O thou *Man of mickle Observations*, when they told you so? and yet I am glad to hear, they are *so ready to help* towards it, when 'tis Necessary; *The water being disturb'd* (he sayes) *they put in their Hooks and Lines and Nets to catch the Fish, the Government*. 'Tis a dainty *Allegory*, the very *Cream* of his Rhetorick, and so let it pass. But why was not he so *Loyal* (especially when I *challeng'd* him to it) to discover some of these dangerous *Hook-and-Line-Men*? We all do, or should know, 'tis the old *Fisher-man* at *Rome*, and his Journey-men, that are now busily *Angling*; and sure when an *Inundation* is so palpably threatned, it will become every good Subject that *asserts the Kings Legal Prerogative, and the establisht Religion*, to endeavour to support the *Banks*, and I wish some whose Duty and true Interest 'tis to maintain them, did not go about to *undermine* them, and by unseasonable *Breaches* let in the Popish *Torrent*.

In his last he charg'd Sir *T. P.* with three fooliish Ill-designs; now he says but *two*, and undoubtedly next Edition they will be dwindled into *none* at all. Yet for publick satisfaction I cannot but take notice of *two things* industriously spread to that Gentlemans disadvantage; 1. That he should be concern'd in promoting Mr. *J.* for *Sheriff*. 2. That he *broke promise* in not appearing before the Lieutenancy *Sept.* 18. Now if both these should happen to be found *mistakes*, what have they next to object?

As to the first, 'Tis most certain, and ready to be *proved*, That Sir *T.* was so far from having any hand in that design, that he endeavoured all he could to *discourage* it; and as soon as ever he heard the least intimation thereof, (which was but on the *Friday* Evening) earnestly desired several of Mr. *J.*'s friends to desist, telling them, *If they had an intent to prejudice the said Mr.* J. *as much as in them lay, they could not take a more expeditious course to effect it*. Now if they would afterwards *proceed*, is it not most unreasonable, that he should be *burthened* with the acts of *others*, or mis-represented by reason of an *Accident*, which (though unluckily happening the same day) he was so remote from advancing, that he *opposed* it?

And here by the way, Though I am wholly a stranger to Mr. *J.* nor intend to be his Advocate, yet finding Sr. *T.* unjustly reflected upon, on his account, and *Jenkisme* here reckon'd up as one of the Cities *new Heresies*, I could not but inquire what might be the *reasons*, that he should thus become the subject of every *Lampoon*, and Coffee-house *Censure*; and I protest I can find *nothing*, but that he is a regular *Conformist* to the establisht Church, and a Citizen of unblameable *Conversation*; only some years since he made a motion in the *Common Council* (whereof he was a Member) expressing some apprehensions of what we are since generally *sensible*, and supposing some

Inconveniencies

Inconveniencies might attend *over-long* Parliaments, desired they would become suiters to the chief Magistrates of the humbly City to petition his Majesty to call *a new one*, if he thought fit. The matter of this request is thought to have been since *Justified by Authority*, signifying the ill consequences of such tedious Session. Or suppose it a Crime, might not a *smart imprisonment* atone for *Rashness*, or time and further experience extenuate the *Guilt*, but that it must still remain an *Immortal stain* (as our Author speaks in another Case) *never to be deleted?*——But leaving Mr. *J.* to be his own *Compurgator*, (whose concerns are *foreign* to our present business) we return to the matter in hand.

The second objection against Sir *T. P.* is about his supposed *Breach of promise*, which if well examined, there will perhaps as little be found therein, as in the former; nor is this meant to cast the least reflection on the *Honourable* Gentlemen of the *Lieutenancy*, for since even a *General Council* is on all hands acknowledged liable to error in matters of *Fact*, 'tis not impossible they might be *misinform'd*, or their *Clerk*, by a popular Rumour, led into a mistake, as to that particular mentioned in the *Gazetted* Declaration, *That then and there he promised to meet*; for 'tis credibly affirm'd, that the Right Honourable the *Lord Mayor*, only *referr'd* or wisht him *to come at such a time*; in which case he was certainly left to his own *Liberty*, nor ought to be taxed with such a formal violation of his *Word*, as some pretend, when he was never *engag'd* further than Prudence and future consideration of Circumstances should advise him.

This will be sufficient answer to his second and third Paragraphs to *men of sense*, though perhaps not to *H.B.* who does nothing there but with false and malicious imputations, render himself (to use his own *Bull-phrase*) at the same time both *Idle and Officious*.

From Folly he next advances to two or three notorious *Falsehoods* in a Breath, That the Vindicator should affirm the City is not obliged by the Acts for settling the Militia, that the City have the *absolute* Command (for so he must mean, or nothing to the purpose) of their *Militia*, and that all the *Burghers* in the World have such command of theirs; whereas all that was alledged was, That the *Act it self* gives the Honourable City of *London* a particular Latitude beyond other places, in some respects, and in regard of *extraordinary duties*; not in the least denying the Militia every where throughout *England* to be absolutely in the power of *the King*, who, 'twas prov'd, had allow'd of the *City-guards*, &c.

But would you know what troubles the man? He cannot for his Gutts, *reconcile the matter for one that is Chamberlain of* London *to be a Parliament man*. The Reason I pray? *Because the unlimitedness of that privilege made use of, may tend to the ruine of Orphans*, &c.

I Answer,

1. What is this to the Vindicator? How comes it in here by head and shoulders, being wholly *Extrinsick* to the matter in debate?

2. Is not this not only impertinently to *forestal* the freedome of Elections, but also to arraign the *Prudence* of the whole City, that knew well enough *not long since* how to reconcile it? Nor has any thing that I know of, or he can alledge, since happened, that should justly cause them to *alter* their sentiments.

3. Does he not here give us reason to judge that he looks upon our Parliaments little better than *Routs*, since he bespeaks them Guilty of such *Injustice*, as to protect one of their members, if he should (that is, if he could) violate such a *Publick Trust*? Can it be imagined the Honour of an English Parliament (where we hope shall never sit any *Pensionary Bankrupts*) would ever suffer it? but would upon Application, abandon such a Delinquent to the utmost *severity* of Law.

Lastly, To knock this objection on the Head, can he be supposed to be a *Citizen*, and vers'd in their usages, that makes it? Whence is it possible this *Imaginary mischief* should arise? Is the Chamberlain *alone*, or so much as *principally* concern'd in disposing *Orphans* estates? Wherein is he liable to be *sued* by the Creditors of the

Chamber?

Chamber? and if he miſpend or fail in *reſpect of the City*, has he not given ſufficient **Security**, who are liable to anſwer the Truſt repoſed? Where is then the danger?

But *H. B.* begins to draw his *breath faintly*, and now comes ridiculouſly to his General *Traverſe*, **Without That**, &c. Now I appeal to all the World whether he has *clear'd* himſelf, or ſo much as touch'd, ſeveral things home-charg'd upon him, *viz.* his reflecting on the Government of the City as *Arbitrary*, Their unjuſt ſcrewing out of money (as he would have it) in election of *Sheriffs*, Their undoing young men by *Livery-Fines*, &c.

His *Demurrer* is of the ſame ſtamp, the man begs hard for his *Charges*, prethee who ſuborn'd thee to write two ſuch paultry Pamphlets as would not bear their own *Expences*? e'en let thy *Clients* pay the *Coſts*, for infallibly they are *Non-ſuited*.

As to the Bead-roll of *harſh Terms* which he muſters up at the Fag-end of his Pamplet, it cannot be Imagined what he means by it, unleſs to prove (what the Vindicator ſeem'd to queſtion) that he is fit for the dignity of a *Scavenger*, by ſhewing his dexterity in *Kennel-raking*? yet it muſt be obſerv'd, that *moſt* of thoſe Epithetes were nothing relating to *H. B.* but fix'd on the *Popiſh Traytors*, who enough deſerve them, others are his own Appellations of himſelf, and the reſt no more than what his attempts render him obnoxious unto; ſuch ill-weeds muſt like *Nettles* be handled *roughly*, elſe they'le *ſting* us, and I know not why we may not call a Spade, a *Spade*. But

Conſcius ipſe ſibi de ſe putat omnia dici.

So much for the Worſhipful *H.B.*

Now to you the worthy Members of this Honourable *City* I humbly addreſs; If Sr. *T. P.* have hitherto demean'd himſelf as a *Loyal Subject* to his King, as a *Faithful Servant* to this City, as a zealous Patriot for the *Proteſtant Intereſt*, and that of the *Publique*, if his late Calumniated *Application* was but in purſuance of his *office* (ſeveral perſons coming to *call in their moneys* on the late Juncture, and he, for the ſatisfaction of them and others, only modeſtly ſtating their apprehenſions) if it be lawful in all *Communities* from the greateſt Monarchy to the meaneſt *Ships-Crew*, for any perſon humbly to give notice of *threatned* dangers, and this practiſed all the world over without *Reprehenſion*, yea received with *thanks* for the good will, though prov'd *miſtaken*, where is then *his offence*? how comes he to ſuffer in any good mans eſteem? or why ſhould he be given up *a Sacrifice* to the clamours of the *debauch'd*, the Revenge of *Popiſh* Incendiaries, the malice of *Whiſperers*, or the groundleſs *Ill-impreſſions* of the Ignorant? He that has laudably diſcharg'd an *eminent Truſt* amongſt you, and for you, ſure deſerves your Confidence in a *greater*: As both better knowing the *Grievances* and *Intereſts* of your City, and more *experienc'd* in the duty you are to chuſe him to. I am not fit to *Adviſe* you, but will not ceaſe to *pray* that you may *Elect* ſuch as may be *fit* to ſerve you and the nation in ſo weighty a work. A *Work* that requires men of parts and of *Reſolution* too. Every *Rich* man (though a competent Eſtate be abſolutely neceſſary) nay every *honeſt* man (though none elſe are) may not be proper for a *Senator*: There may be ſome that ſcarce underſtand the Queſtion, but would give an *I* or *No* at randome, when a *ſingle* vote may almoſt be worth a *Kingdome*. There are ſome that like *Glaſſes* may be blown into any *ſhape* with a *Flattering* or *Threatning* Breath. I am confident you would not diſhonour your ſelves with ſuch a Choice——May the *Almighty Counſellor* direct you ſo now and ever as may moſt tend to his *Glory*, the ſafety of his Vicegerent our Gracious *Soveraign*, the preſervation of the *Proteſtant Religion*, the Honour of the *City*, and the *Publick Weal* of the Nation.

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